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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/157,697	09/21/98	BYRISETTY	R 777.180US1
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021186 WM02/1121
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EXAMINER

FARAH, F

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2152

DATE MAILED: 11/21/00

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

TS

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/157,697

Applicant(s)
Byrlsetty, Han, Ryan, Pfenning, Solomon

Examiner
Farzaneh Farahi

Group Art Unit
2152



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Sep 21, 1998

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claim

☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☒ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3, 7, 10, 15, 17, 20-22 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lapourtre et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,136,708 in view of Ishikawa U.S. Patent No. 6,038,602.
3. In regards to **claims 1, 10, 20 and 25**, Lapourtre discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Lapourtre discloses the main concept of a system of coordination which is continuously aware of the state of the total system. Lapourtre discloses a client-server environment in which the client makes request to the server for services. Each system is equipped with a control program which acts as a coordinator between the stations and it keeps track of the state of each station by keeping a different lists on each system as far as being active or the services they offer. The active list contains information on every station in the system such as the name of the station, wether they are in operation and the services they offer. When a client process requests a connection to a server, the coordinator scans the list to find out if the server is active and what services it offers and also keeps the list continuously updated according to the state of the entire

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system [Col 5, Line 23-Col 6, Lines 67], [Col 10, Lines 52-62]. However, Lapourtre does not disclose computer conferencing and the type of the system and a user list. Ishikawa discloses two types of clients and servers engaging in a conference with a user list indicating whether a user has a current connection in a client server environment for the purpose of using a better connection method [Abstract], [Col 3, Lines 23-67] and [Col 10, Lines 5-30]. It would have been obvious to the having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate conferencing the clients as taught by Ishikawa into the system of Lapourtre in order to facilitate conferencing between users. In regards to **claims 2, 3, 7, 15, 17, 21, 22, 26 and 27**, Lapourtre discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Lapourtre discloses maintaining a list of stations and the indicating status of each station [Col 6, Lines 22-36]. However, Lapourtre does not explicitly disclose maintaining a user list and updating it. Ishikawa discloses maintaining a user list containing users addresses and their connection status [Col 5, Lines 26-37] and [Col 12, Lines 41-49] in a network in order to keep a record of all the connections. It would have been obvious to the having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate maintaining and updated user list and its addresses and connection for the purpose of better managing the network.

4. Claims 4-6, 8, 9, 11-14, 16, 18, 19, 23, 24 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ishikawa U.S. Patent No. 6,038,602.

5. In regards to **claims 4, 5 and 19**, Ishikawa discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Ishikawa discloses servers running on NT operating system on Internet. [Col 7, Lines 12-41].

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However, Ishikawa does not disclose NTDS or ISL. It is common knowledge in prior art to incorporate using NTDS or ISL servers for the purpose of enhancement. It would have been obvious to the having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the servers types more specifically built for the process in order to enhance the performance of the network. In regards to **claims 6, 8 and 24**, Ishikawa discloses the register primitive to register the server and make it known to the other systems [Col 9, Line 55-Col 10, Line 18]. However, Lapourtre does not disclose authentication and encryption. The examiner takes Official Notice (See MPEP 2144.03) that it is well known in the network communication art to utilize authentication and encryption to ensure security and privacy of the users. Examiner further notes the commonly employed encryption and authentication standard utilized in network communication systems at the time of the invention as evidencing this assertion. In response to a timely and proper challenge traversing the assertion, the examiner should be able to easily obtain a relevant supporting reference to support the taking of the Official Notice.

6. In regards to **claim 9**, Ishikawa discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Ishikawa discloses using TCP/IP and PPP protocol. However, Ishikawa does not disclose using SDP. It is common knowledge in prior art to incorporate using SDP protocol for the purpose of enhancement. It would have been obvious to the having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the protocol more specifically engineered for the process in order to enhance the performance of the network.

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9. In regards to **claims 11-14, 16 and 18**, Lapourtire-Ishikawa discloses users communicating across the Internet, users connecting to servers to obtain address and status of the target client and making it publish by the servers keeping an updated list of the connection and users [See Ishikawa, Abstract] and [See Lapourtire , Col 6, Lines 21-36].

10. In regards to **claims 23 and 28**, claim limitations are covered in claim rejections 6, 7 and 8.

Conclusion

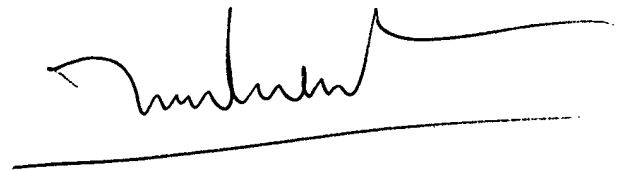
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Farzaneh Farahi whose telephone number is (703) 308-6118. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00 to 3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart, can be reached on (703) 305-4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-6606.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Farzaneh Farahi

November 10, 2000



LE HIEN LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER